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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

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Coming to Terms with OHV's

by Diana Enright, public information assistant, Kootenai National Forest

Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) employees may hear a great deal about off-highway vehicles (OHV) over the next year - and it may be one of the important issues carried into the new century.

Working on a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the two agencies plan to address increased OHV use by revising management of the 18.2 million acres administered by the Forest Service and the 8.5 million acres administered by the BLM in Montana, North Dakota and portions of South Dakota.

As proposed, areas currently open year-long or seasonally to OHV use for riding off roads and trails will change to a restricted designation that allows for travel only on roads and trails. Anticipated amendments to managements plans (meaning forest plans for the Forest Service) will cover only wheeled, motorized vehicles such as ATVs and will not affect snowmobiles.

There are areas not affected by the proposal, such as those currently restricted, closed or managed for intensive use, or locations given access by Federal lease or permit. Exceptions will be considered in the analysis for such activities as game retrieval, camping or disabled access.

The two agencies say change is needed to deter the spread of noxious weeds, prevent erosion, decrease damage to

cultural sites, lessen user conflicts and reduce wildlife disruptions. On national forest lands, OHV use is prohibited only in wilderness areas. All other areas are designated either open, restricted or closed, but that varies from forest to forest.

To explain the issues to the public, a series of open houses are planned in February and March across Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. A letter was sent to 16,000 people on a combined Forest Service-BLM mailing list informing them of the issues and alternatives and requesting their views. The comment period closes March 31, 1999 with a Draft EIS expected this summer.

After the final EIS is issued, the Forest Service will have a 45-day period in which to file an appeal; the BLM will have 30 days in which to file a protest. A decision on the proposal is expected in January 2000.

Once the broad-scale decision and planned amendments are in place, both agencies would develop site-specific travel management plans for geographic areas. With the popularity of OHV's, these plans will no doubt come under great public scrutiny.

For more information on the project, check out the website at www.mt.blm.gov/ea/ohv.index.html (BLM) or website at www.fs.fed.us/r1 (Forest Service).



Photo by Larry Blocker.

A Message from the Regional Forester



Dale Bosworth

Congress recently gave the Forest Service the authority to test a new way of working with the public on projects that pair harvest of forest products with land restoration activities. With this authority, we hope to achieve integrated land management goals that meet local and rural community needs. The concept is called "land stewardship contracting."

I'm enthusiastic about it because land stewardship contracting is a process that emphasizes what we leave on the land, not what we take from it. In other words, we can focus on the end result and how that's to be accomplished. We have the opportunity to initiate projects that combine removal of products with elements in the contract that involve such land management activities as improving water quality, controlling noxious weeds, improving wildlife, reclaiming roads, or reducing forest fuels. The value from forest products can be used to offset the cost of restoration activities.

We're reaching out to local communities to share in the development of these pilot projects. In fact, communities themselves could be the contracting entity. It's critical we involve as many people as possible, that we get consensus, and that we monitor the progress of these projects.

We're still in the formative stages of the program. We have the criteria from Congress for the projects; we now have to put it into action in the field. Region One has been allocated 9 of the 28 projects authorized nationally. If successful, this process offers us a new way to work collaboratively with the public on land stewardship. From a practical standpoint, it gives us a way to use forest products to improve the land and create jobs.

To me, with land stewardship contracting, everybody wins.

A Time of Transition and Change

*by Buck Feist and Mary Bell Lunsford
Public Affairs Office, Custer National Forest*

The Custer National Forest and Dakota Prairie Grasslands have been off and running toward achieving the goal of two separate units. Custer Forest Supervisor Nancy Curriden and Dakota Prairie Grasslands Supervisor Larry Dawson have worked closely together, soliciting input from employees, as well as the Regional and National Office, to make this transition work smoothly. A starting point was holding concurrent all-employee meetings at each unit.

A transition team comprised of key individuals from both units was immersed in the process of drafting alternative organizational charts for each unit. This team developed the chart with input from several ad hoc teams for individual program areas. The teams devised alternatives for managing different resource programs and for administrative support. All of this was done within tight

timeframes. These charts were presented to the Regional Directors, Washington Office staff and Congressional delegations in Washington in early January.

Fiscal year 1999 is a transition year for both units. Nancy and Larry are aware that change affects people in different ways, and both are committed to fostering open lines of communication. Both supervisors have held listening sessions with all employees. Each employee is a part of the process, and their input is viewed as a vital tool during this transition period.

The Regional Office is working toward leasing temporary space in Bismarck and vacancy announcements will be out soon for positions that will be filled. If anyone would like to discuss the reorganization effort, please call Nancy at the Custer National Forest, 406/248-9885 or Larry at the Dakota Prairie Grasslands, 701/250-4443.

Regional Training Academy Set for March 15-19

Last year almost 800 employees from Regions 1 and 4 attended classes at the Regional Training Academy (RTA). This year RTA will be held March 15-19 on the University of Montana campus in Missoula. Most of the classes offered at the academy will be located in the Gallagher Business Building.

New this year is the creation of the RTA homepage on the Intranet. Attendees can look at the catalogue, get a report of their classes, view a map of the university and pick up their parking permit all from the comfort of their desk. The address is fsweb.r1.fs.fed.us/training/rta on the homepage.

The general session will be on Wednesday, March 17, from 11:30 to 1:30. Featured speaker will be former Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas. Jack is known for his dynamic speaking style and will assuredly have some provocative ideas to share. Plan now to grab some lunch at the University Center and join the Regional Forester and his staff for this special session.



If anyone has any comments that should be considered for RTA 99, please contact any of the following core team members: Donna Sheehy, RO Engineering, (406) 329-3312; Steve Gradhandt, RO Administration, (406) 329-3001; Jane Haker, RO Human Resources, (406) 329-3194; Charlene Schildwachter, RO CFFHP, (406) 329-3599; John Smith, AFD, (406) 329-4894; Scott Bixler, RO RMLH&W, (406) 329-3655.

right: Montana Conservation Corps member assembling the jack legs for the fence.

below right: *Howellia aquatilis*.

The water *Howellia*, *Howellia aquatilis*, is a very rare, elusive plant in the bluebell family—the first plant to be listed as threatened in Montana. There are only two core population centers in the country where they're found: on the Flathead National Forest in the Swan Valley and in the vicinity of Spokane, Washington. Other locations include a few widely scattered sites in northern Idaho, western Washington, and northern California. In total, the species occupies less than 100 acres in the world.

Very special conditions are required for the species to become established and grow. The plant lives its life in small ponds, typically surrounded by a forested environment. The bottom of the ponds must be firm and the proper mix of consolidated silts and organic sediments. In addition to the poorly drained soils, the ponds, which are generally filled by snowmelt runoff and spring rains, must dry out by late summer or early fall for the seeds to germinate.

If the conditions are just right, nature works its magic and the seeds germinate. This occurs in the fall, usually October—but only if exposed to the atmosphere in the dried up ponds. The new seedlings overwinter under the snow pack. The following spring, as the ponds fill up, the plant springs forth as an aquatic. In the summer, tiny white flowers, only 1/4 inch across, rise above the surface of the pond. From the flower come the seeds for the next cycle.

Because of the rarity of the plant, there is interest by many agencies and groups to assure the survival of the water *Howellia* in the Swan Valley. There is danger that livestock may eliminate the plant in some locations by grazing and trampling the ground. The only answer is to fence the few ponds that are exposed to cattle grazing.



Recently, an eclectic mix of partners came to the rescue. From September through October they met with forest employees to build jack-leg and pole fences around selected water *Howellia* ponds in the Swan Valley. The Montana Conservation Corps, Montana Native Plant Society, and residents of the Ovando area all contributed to the fence construction. Funding was provided by Garden Clubs of America, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, Turner Foundation, and Mary Gray's Water *Howellia* Chocolate Fund.

Maria Mantas, botanist on the Flathead National Forest, designed the project and recruited the volunteers. While water *Howellia* may not be as charismatic as some of the animals on the threatened and endangered or even regional sensitive species list, it is one of the small wonders of Montana's rich natural heritage. Maybe that's the reason Maria was able to recruit such a range of enthusiastic partners to help manage and protect this part of our natural world.

Protecting the Rare, Elusive *Howellia*

On the Flathead National Forest

by Allen Rowley, public affairs specialist
Flathead National Forest

The Greening and Wetting of the Middle Fork of Little Sheep Creek

by Jack de Golia, public affairs officer
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Dave Browning had to climb out of the creek channel to greet me when I arrived to see the work in progress. The Middle Fork of Little Sheep Creek was more like a ditch than a creek bed. I couldn't see Dave until he started to climb out. And, he wasn't worried about getting wet: there's no water in this reach of the creek. I found out that until the repair job gets done, there won't be.

The Middle Fork of Little Sheep Creek, in the south end of the Dillon Ranger District used to carry water late into the fall. But, few can remember the last time that happened—until now. Browning, the Dillon and Madison districts' fisheries biologist, was one of several Beaverhead-Deerlodge employees who worked with forest hydrologist Pete Bengeyfield to bring water back to the Middle Fork.

"Pete deserves the credit," Browning said. "We started in the fall of 1996, and Pete was confident that by putting in these 'v-weirs' and rerouting the creek channel in a few key places, water would run here again. The results so far are truly amazing!"

"V-weirs" are made of untreated oak railroad ties from Wisconsin. They're like small dams, with the "v" pointed upstream and angled down into the creek bottom. Water slows at the v-weir and then spills over, allowing sediment to drop out.

The Middle Fork runs down from the Continental Divide, across a section of private land, and back into the forest. Over many years, a combination of grazing, browsing and trampling made the stream wider, shallower, and straighter. In some places the force of the water made deep gullies. Riparian vegetation like willows and sedges disappeared, and without their protecting roots, water cut the channel so deep that it could no longer get out onto the floodplain during spring floods.



"This used to dry up in July," Bengeyfield said. "When we get done with the lower stretch here, the water will run down the entire length of the stream that's in the forest."

Bengeyfield credits forest road manager Bob Duhamel and the R.E. Miller Construction Company for their skilled work delivering and working with heavy equipment that made much of the project possible. Funding came in part from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks' "Future Fisheries Improvement" grant program and from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation's "Bring Back the Natives" grant program.



Above left: Dave Browning in the Little Sheep Creek gully, putting in a v-weir.

Above: Dave shows just how high the grass has grown in just a year or two of rest.

All that flood energy stayed in the channel now, cutting it ever deeper. The result: the channel went from 18 inches deep to six feet deep for long stretches of the Middle Fork. Once that happened, Bengeyfield explained, the water table fell, sagebrush began replacing willows and other water-loving plants, and the Middle Fork became, in the words of the hydrologists, "non-functioning."

But, after just two seasons of restoration work on the mile or so of the creek below the private land, water is now running in that part of the creek as late as October.

The results, in just two years, have been remarkable. In addition to many new willows sprouting, transplanted sedges have taken hold, and stream banks are building with deposited sediment, the flood plain was underwater during the entire "peak flow" period this past spring—just as it should be.



Customer Service Corner

A big thumbs up to automotive worker Joe Nelson, Fortine Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest, for his first class service to Dr. Burton Appleton, of Alexandria, Virginia. Dr. Appleton wrote Chief Mike Dombeck the following note:

"This is to inform you of how helpful one of your staff was to me on a trip to Stryker, Montana on September 17 of this year (1998).

On that day, I was searching for the remnants of a former Civilian Conservation Corps...camp in or near Stryker, Montana....On my way back to Libby from Stryker, I noticed a Ranger Station near Murphy Lake and decided to stop there with the hope that I could get some assistance on my search. I am glad that I did. I was referred to Ranger Joe Nelson. He first drew a rough map for me, then he produced a detailed map for me, highlighting the route. He knew exactly what I was looking for and told me how to find it. Then, he volunteered to ride with me to make sure I found it. Sure enough, he came right on it. I had driven right past it earlier....

Without Ranger Nelson's help, I never would have been able to locate the site. He went out of his way to help. That is what I wanted to tell you....I enjoyed immensely my recent trip to Montana, mainly because of people like Joe Nelson.

Burton L. Appleton

Cooperation Solves Grazing Dilemma on the Clearwater

by Kathy Thompson, information assistant
Clearwater National Forest

It was almost like we're dreaming," said Jim Clapperton, Idaho Department of Lands representative. He was speaking of the successful coordination among several land managers and private landowners that addressed a grazing problem within the Jim Brown Creek watershed. There were doubters who thought it wouldn't work. But according to Wally Butler, range consultant for Potlatch Corporation, "It's a classic example of the coordination that gets results."

Potlatch Corporation owns 58 percent of the land in the watershed; private individuals own 4 percent. Clearwater National Forest manages 13 percent of the land; and Idaho Department of Lands, another 25 percent. They all belong to the coordinated resource management group (CRM), which formed four years ago to remedy two primary water quality problems in Jim Brown Creek: excessive sedimentation and high water temperatures.

Group members knew they had to do something about grazing in the allotment, both to protect water quality and tree plantings. They faced a decision: change management of grazing in the Jim Brown Creek watershed or change, downward, the number of cows cattleman Mel Mader could graze on the 325-cow/calf pair allotment on the land. The CRM grazing committee met in the spring of 1998. Butler confessed, "We were pretty polarized."

Both Potlatch and Idaho Department of Lands managers went to the meeting convinced they'd have to cut the number of cattle allowed to graze because the animals were harming the trees they planted. After the meeting, Paul Gravelle, forester for Potlatch, said, there was a real "jump in cooperation."

The group opted to fence the watershed into three large areas, each about 7,000 acres, which meant they could control where cattle graze, keep them away



Kent Wellner (r), range manager for the Forest, listens while cattleman Mel Mader talks about the fencing project completed last summer in the Jim Brown Creek watershed east of Weippe. Because fencing was installed through cooperation among CRM members, Mader was able to graze his full allotment of cow-calf pairs last summer.

from tree plantations and manage the animals' access to the creek.

Help came from the Nez Perce Tribe, whose watershed management coordinator, Ira Jones, brought money to the table to build fences. Other assistance came from Janet Hohle, with the Soil Conservation Commission, based in Moscow, Idaho. Thanks to their efforts, about 10 miles of fence went up last summer in the Jim Brown Creek watershed, protecting trees and the creek. Cattle can get to the stream in places fenced off especially for their use.

An employee with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Orofino seized an opportunity to get additional funding from the Idaho Department of Agriculture for fence building and tree and creek protection. The result: \$8,000 to reimburse Potlatch Corporation, Idaho Department of Lands and Mel Mader for fencing materials.

One small section of fence still needs to be built. That will happen next summer. Its completion will bring conclusion to a cooperative effort that still astonishes the participants: landowners, land managers and one lone cattleman.

A Project Gets Out of the Starting Gate

- thanks to the Backcountry Horsemen

*by Allen Rowley, public affairs specialist
Flathead National Forest*

The Flathead Backcountry Horsemen recently completed their largest single project on the Flathead National Forest in several years. The project was the design and construction of a new camping facility specifically for horse users adjacent to the existing Tuchuck Campground.

Located in Trail Creek, approximately 6 miles south of Canada, members of the Backcountry Horsemen have long felt the Tuchuck area was under-utilized for recreation. There are thousands of easily accessible wild acres to visit and many miles of trails in the area to ride. The trouble was the campground was not designed for visitors with horses. There were safety and maintenance concerns, as well as environmental problems.

Due to the lack of facilities, horses ended up tied in the campground, with no turn around for trailers and no easy-to-use loading ramp. In addition, the horse use that did occur in the area was all next to the creek.

For years, the Glacier View Ranger District had been hoping to improve the area but could not due to lack of funding. The Backcountry Horsemen came to the rescue and went to work looking for ways to get the job done. The group successfully applied for Federal dollars through a grant program managed by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. To receive the grant, the club matched the grant money with volunteer labor and materials.

In March 1998, work began in a member's workshop in the valley. Hitch racks and combination feed bunk-hitch racks were fabricated in the shop. Next, a truckload of lodgepole pine was removed from the area to clear the access road, loading ramp, feed bunk, and turn-around area. Over July 4th weekend, the club spent their vacation finishing the project. The combination feed bunk-hitch racks, extra



Above: Laying up the logs for the new loading ramp. Present (left to right): Don Frownfelter, Jim Landis.



Setting in a new feed bunk-hitch rack. (left to right): Edd Blackler, Terry Lindley, Greg Schatz, Ron Shover.

Right: Russ and Beryl Garvin at the dedication.



Below right: Edd Blackler puts finishing touches on the new loading ramp.

hitch racks, stock loading ramp, and a ramp to assist disabled riders in mounting horses were installed. The weekend concluded with the final placement and grading of gravel.

The facility was dedicated to Russ Garvin, long-time member and for over ten years coordinator of volunteer projects for the club. The club received a \$4,000 grant from the State of Montana as seed money. Donated supplies, over 720 hours of volunteer labor, the sale of logs cleared from the project site, and funding from the Glacier View Ranger District was added to the seed money to complete the project.

Without the efforts of the club, both on the ground and in securing the grant money, the plans for the Tuchuck Horse Camp might still be on the shelf.



Working in the Backcountry on the Clearwater

Last summer and fall, the Lochsa Ranger District completed a bridge project, thanks to help from volunteers.

In 1997, a tree crashed across a bridge used by pack stock to cross Cedar Creek, making the creek difficult to ford in the Lewis and Clark Grove. The grove is an historic site where William Clark and six hunters camped September 19, 1805. Lochsa District Ranger Cindy Lane wanted the replacement bridge to be rustic and fit in with the character of the surroundings.

Volunteers at the annual Take Pride in the Clearwater project pitched in to help. Last summer they cut and peeled lodgepole pine for use as handrails. Then late in the summer members of the Forest Service road crew set stringers across Cedar Creek to lay the foundation for construction. Volunteers from the North Central Idaho chapter of Backcountry Horsemen installed the decking and handrails in two days last October.

Forest Service employees Tim Lewis and Norm Steadman coordinated and supervised the project. "Norm was the



Members of the North Central Idaho chapter of Backcountry Horsemen work on the Cedar Creek Bridge in the Lewis and Clark Grove last October.

brains. I was the straw boss," jokes trails technician Lewis. The end result - a bridge ready for use.

Talking with the Public about Road Obliteration



*by Allen Rowley, public affairs specialist
Flathead National Forest*

Fewer roads on the landscape makes for good ecosystem management, so states the scientific assessment of the Interior Columbia Basin. On the Flathead National Forest, there has been specific research supporting this opinion, showing grizzly bears prefer and are more successful in raising cubs in areas of low road density.

This research has been used to reinforce forest plan direction. The forest has been actively removing roads from service since the mid-1980s primarily to secure

habitat for grizzly bears, improve bull trout habitat, and improve water quality.

There is no lack of interest by the public on the issue. It was in response to public comments on one project that the Flathead National Forest, together with the Natural Resource Committee of the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, decided to host a tour so that the public could get a first-hand look at watershed improvement work when road culverts are removed.

On a beautiful fall day, some 25 people car-pooled up the North Fork. At the first stop, they observed areas where culverts had been removed 4 years ago, the slopes graded, reseeded, and shrubs and seedlings transplanted. While many on the trip were

not totally in support of removing roads from service, they saw the value of the completed work.

The second stop was to the project that elicited the public comments that initiated the field trip. In order to obliterate the road and reduce its hydrologic and ecologic impacts, numerous ditch relief water bars were installed across the road. Where the road once crossed waterways with the aid of culverts, all the culverts were removed. Part of the associated fill was also removed to re-establish the streams to the grade and width that existed prior to road construction.

The ditch relief water bars at this stop were understandable to the group. The culvert removal was a different story. To those who vocalized their opinions, the extent of bare soil and total size of the area affected at this stop was totally unacceptable.

This is not the first time nor will it be the last when the public has been exposed to or debates the merits of road obliteration on the Flathead. Although the individuals present did not represent the entire spectrum of the public opinion, their input was valuable and included suggestions for future projects.

A key message that came out of the field trip is that road obliteration and culvert removal may be easy to talk about in the office, but on the ground it is a controversial program in the eyes of the public—especially when viewed first hand.

Field trip participants viewing a stream crossing where the culvert was removed earlier this summer as one of the steps in reducing hydrologic impacts associated with the road. One step in obliterating the road.

Tree Planting in Kootenai Gets BIG Boost

*by Gary Dickerson, forest silviculturist
Kootenai National Forest*

The Kootenai National Forest recently received a \$50,000 donation from the National Arbor Day Foundation to plant seedlings on forest land. The foundation is a non-profit organization, located out of Lincoln, Nebraska, that donates funds to national forests for tree planting.

In FY 99, the Kootenai expects to plant an estimated 3,800 acres with over 1.2 million seedlings. The foundation grant will be used to help fund the planting of approximately 100,000 of these seedlings. Priority sites for planting will include areas that were burned by the 1994 wildfires and sites recently harvested.

Planting is scheduled to occur this spring, primarily from April to mid-June. Care will be taken to ensure a mixture of species, such as ponderosa pine, western larch, western white pine, Engelmann spruce and Douglas-fir are planted.

The Kootenai views the donation as an excellent opportunity to develop a cooperative relationship with the Arbor Day Foundation. With decreasing budgets, the Kootenai forest is pleased to have the foundation funds to supplement this year's replanting program.

Restoration of 1906 Fireman's Cabin Completed!



By Libby Langston, fire prevention technician Lolo National Forest

The job of locating and fighting fires has changed tremendously during the 20th century. The use of high technology has become second nature to us. But what were employees of the Forest Service faced with before the routine use of helicopters and airplanes in fire detection and control? If you'd like to find out, you can see first hand by making a trip up to Sliderock Mountain.

Situated on the ridge top at an elevation of 7,820 feet, Sliderock Fireman's Cabin and Lookout Tree borders the Lolo and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests with a panoramic view to the west overlooking the renowned fishing stream of Rock Creek. The legal description on the Lolo West National Forest Visitor's map is T. 10 N. - R. 16 W. near the center of Section 25.

Built in 1906, the cabin and lookout tree are the last co-existing pair left in the Northern Region. Located on the same ridge in close proximity is another fireman's cabin which was built in 1928. This structure was used in conjunction with a much newer 1930's vintage L-4 Lookout tower. In 1980 the L-4 tower was relocated to the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula.

Because the Sliderock cabin had not been maintained since 1980, it was in desperate need of help. Enter former Missoula Ranger District employee Jack Fisher. Now retired, and working as a Forest Service volunteer, Jack helped initiate the restoration project. Last summer, under Jack's tutelage, 11 volunteers and several Lolo National Forest employees pooled their talents to bring the rustic 1906 cabin back to its original condition.

Local volunteers Ed Heilman, Russ Royter, Kathy Johnson, Ellie Sigrist, Jack Puckett, Beth Lemire, Tom Reese, and Correen Faulkner, coordinated by Lolo National Forest's Libby Langston, all contributed to make this project a success.

The group replaced several sill and wall logs, installed a new roof, floor, door and window panes. Volunteers Emily Langston and Joyce Garrett from Atlanta, Georgia, provided southern style breakfasts and dinners.

The 1906 fireman's cabin is now restored and stands alongside the lookout tree. The site is accessible in the summer by four-wheel drive or by more creative means throughout the year. If you'd like to compare and contrast the old ways of fire detection and dispatch, the trip up to Sliderock is worth the trip.

by Ann Goldbarn, education coordinator
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center

Kids Explore the Corps

A yellow bus pulls up to the curb. The doors open and an instructor steps aboard to greet 70 squirming 4th graders. The students are briefed on the story of this place, the agenda of their tour, and expected behavior during their visit. Anxious to move, the children divide into teams and scramble through the front doors of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center.

Their group joins the ranks of many schools who have visited this new facility. Word of the field trip opportunity is spreading like wildfire across Montana. Over 1,000 children per month have made their way to the center.

Through interaction, hands-on activities, and problem solving, students gain an understanding of Lewis and Clark's experiences with the many Indian tribes of the West; the trials of portaging the falls and crossing the Bitterroots; the techniques used to measure and map; and the complex cultures of the people living in the western wilderness of 1805.

The education program curriculum was developed under contract by a retired educator and former principal. The story portrayed at the center has been integrated with Montana social studies curriculum guidelines to provide students and teachers at all grade levels an opportunity to meet their study objectives.

Teachers are now incorporating a visit to the Interpretive Center into their yearly curriculum planning. Educators have the option of choosing a program that will provide a best fit for their students' academic needs.

Time spent at the center races along, as students move from one activity to the next. They build miniature dugout canoes from balsam wood, create corn husk balls, draw maps and prepare journals with quill pens. Occasionally, students are treated to a presentation by costumed interpreters demonstrating different aspects of the Lewis and Clark story.

The education staff is made up solely of volunteers, retired professionals, and mothers who are dedicated to working with children. Their enthusiasm and love



for young people is evident as they greet the children and lead them through each activity at the center. The program lives and breathes because of these talented and committed professionals.

As the students board their bus, toting remembrances of their visit, their questions and voices echo in the exhibit hall . . . *Is that real dirt?* (on the Mandan earthlodge) . . . *Will that dugout slip off the hill and go out the window?* . . . *Were those animals ever alive* (the taxidermy mounts)? . . . and most gratifying . . . *Are we done already?*

Recording the Past for the Future

by Cindy Schacher, archaeological technician, Nez Perce National Forest

Back in the 1930's, a Federal program was created to record this country's outstanding historic landmarks. Sadly, the photographs and drawings completed by this program, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), compose the only remaining record of some of these landmarks.

Federal agencies are much more sensitive than they once were about documenting their important historic resources, often times using the professional standards outlined in HABS. During this past summer Nez Perce National Forest archaeologists Steve Armstrong, Cindy Schacher, and Cort Sims (detailed from the IPNF as acting forest archaeologist) had the pleasure of working with staff from the Regional Office geometronics department on a HABS project.

The task at hand included recordation and photography of the log structures at



Don Van Nice,
professional photographer, Regional
Office, at Moose Creek Ranger Station.

the historic Moose Creek Ranger Station in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. The ranger station complex, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is one of Region One's significant cultural sites.

Measured drawings, large-format photography (4" X 5" negative) and written historical reports complete the typical HABS documentation package. Regional Office staff Dan Maier, Don Van Nice, and Ron Normandeau were of great assistance in this job. Their skill and knowledge in

photogrammetry and photography made the task easier and much less time consuming. The photographs taken by Dan and Don will provide detail, textures and many other types of views either too time-consuming or impossible to draw accurately. Photography also provides information on current furnishings, visual context for the drawings and histories, as well as a sense of massing through perspective views with greatly reduced distortion.

Don Van Nice, a professional photographer, taught us the basics of the art of 4" x 5" photography. The 4" x 5" camera is a large format camera with perspective and focus correction, including bubble levels and of course the infamous black cloth placed over the camera and photographer to block light. Yes, these cameras are still in use today!

Dan, Don, and Ron provide an irreplaceable resource to all the forests of Region One. With their help the wonderful wilderness treasure of Moose Creek Ranger Station and its historic architecture will live on forever.

New Forest Supervisor for the Lewis and Clark



Rick Prausa

Rick Prausa, 46, is the new forest supervisor for the Lewis and Clark National Forest. He moved from the Washington Office where he was acting deputy director of forest management in the National Forest System. Prausa

had served in the WO since 1989. Previously he worked for the agency in New Mexico, Wisconsin and Idaho, and with the BLM in Oregon.

Rick, whose father was in the Forest Service, grew up in the West in Idaho and Utah. He has a degree in forest resource management from the University of Idaho. He and his wife Robin are living in Great Falls. They have a 19-year old son at the Virginia Military Institute and a 20-year old daughter who is working in northern Virginia.

New Planner on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge

Peri Suenram has been named the planning, budget and systems staff officer for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. The Dillon native will oversee revision of the Beaverhead and Deerlodge forest plans, budgeting and fiscal operations, and computer operations for the forest. She succeeds Gerry Alcock, who died earlier this year.

Peri holds a bachelor of liberal studies degree from Western Montana College of the University of Montana in social science. She began her Forest Service career in 1980 as a clerk in the planning office of the Beaverhead National Forest. Other jobs include administrative officer for the BLM's Butte office (1989-1990), and environmental coordinator for the Beaverhead forest, working on litigation, appeals of agency decisions, and other work related to Forest Service environmental analyses (1990-1998).

Peri and her husband Andrew have two daughters, Jacy, 6, and Kansas, 3.

New Ranger for the Rexford Ranger District

Glen McNitt is the new ranger for the Rexford district, Kootenai National Forest. He is formerly the public affairs officer for the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota. McNitt holds a bachelor's degree in natural resource planning and a master's in landscape architecture.

Glen began his Forest Service career in 1976 on the Six Rivers National Forest in California. Since that time, his work has included landscape architecture and recreation planning on the Angeles and Shasta-Trinity National Forests, also in California. He was the district recreation staff officer on the South Platte Ranger District in Colorado. In South Dakota, he was the district ranger on the Harney District before moving to the public affairs officer position.

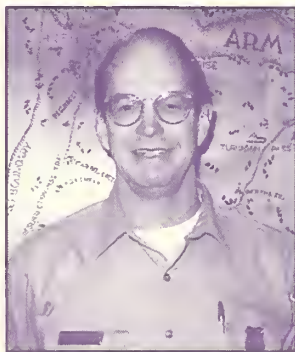
Duane Harp is New Helena District Ranger

*by Maggie Pittman, public affairs officer
Helena National Forest*

Duane Harp arrived February 1 as the new Helena District Ranger. Duane replaces Denis Hart who retired in August 1998. Duane comes to Region One from the Chugatch National Forest

where he served as the Seward District Ranger since 1987.

Duane received a B.S. degree in forest management from Humboldt State University in 1971 and a M.S. degree in wildland resource management from the University of California at Berkeley in 1974. He began his Forest Service career as a seasonal firefighter in 1968 on the Plumas National Forest. He has since held a variety of positions in fire, timber, and other resources on the Tahoe and the Grand Mesa,



Duane Harp

Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests. In addition, Duane served on the line officer team for the Fire 21 effort. Duane and his wife Liz and daughter Darcy are outdoor people and come to Montana with great expectations for all that Region One has to offer. Welcome to Region One, Duane!

New Red River District Ranger

*by Laura Smith,
public affairs assistant,
Nez Perce National
Forest*



Kevin Martin from Joseph, Oregon, was selected as the Nez Perce National Forest's district ranger for the Red River Ranger District, headquartered at Elk City, Idaho. He reported to his new job December 21,

1998. Kevin has degrees in animal ecology and entomology from Iowa State University and a degree in wildlife science from Oregon State University. Since October 1989, Kevin was the program leader for the fish, wildlife, soil, water and botany programs on the Wallowa Mountain Zone of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The Wallowa Mountains Zone includes the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, Eagle Cap Ranger District and the Wallowa Valley Ranger District. He was acting district ranger on both the Eagle Cap (10/94-6/95) and Pine (11/91-3/92) Ranger Districts of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Before coming to northeastern Oregon, Kevin worked in several locations in central Oregon: district biologist on the Sisters (1988-1989) and Crescent (1984-1988) Ranger Districts.

Kevin and his wife Lori have three sons: Jamie, 20, Travis, 18 and Zach, 15. The family enjoys hunting, fishing, skiing, hiking and snowmobiling.

Assistance in Tribal Relations

John Foss has been detailed from Alaska to the Region for 6 months as Tribal Government coordinator in State and Private Forestry. Some of the things he'll be tackling: regional training session in March on Tribal Government relations; tribal coordination with the Lewis and Clark bicentennial; information sharing, advice and line officer consultation, regional coordination on issues national in scope; and pulling together a regional resource guide on Tribal relations.

John can be reached at: 406-329-3348, FAX 406-329-3132.

New District Ranger for Dillon

As of January 4, **David S. Fallis**, 42, is the new district ranger for the Dillon Ranger District. Dave had been the district ranger for Region 4's Lost River Ranger District, Salmon-Challis National Forest, since 1992.

David began his Forest Service career in 1979 in Globe, Arizona, as a range conservationist. He graduated that year with a degree in range management from Utah State University. He later worked on national forests in New Mexico and Nevada before moving to Idaho six years ago.

A native of Spokane, David says he's got strong Montana roots, with family in both Missoula and White Sulphur Springs. He's an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, hunting, and horseback riding among other pursuits. He and his wife Jackie have two children, Jacob, age 10, and Kelsey, age 6.

New District Ranger for Ninemile



Loren Kroenke

Loren Kroenke accepted and has reported to the Ninemile district ranger position on the Lolo National Forest, effective January 25, 1999. He brings an extensive resource background to the Lolo, which includes substantial experience in such areas as planning and NEPA work involving contentious issues and complex interactions with local communities and management of large and varied recreation programs.

Loren was previously with Region 2 as assistant district ranger/EIS project manager at the Holy Cross Ranger District, White River National Forest. Prior to that, he worked at the Aspen Ranger District, White River forest, as the recreation staff (1993-1998) and as a soil scientist with the Routt National Forest (1980-1988) in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Originally from Minnesota, Loren graduated from the University of Minnesota, college of forestry, in 1977, with a B.S. in recreation resource management and soil science. Loren, who is single, enjoys whitewater rafting, biking, skiing, and hunting.

New Deputy Director of Engineering

Sam Morgeau has been selected as the deputy director of Engineering. Sam was formerly the director of Natural Resources for the Confederated Kootenai and Salish Tribes in Pablo, Montana. He also served as assistant director of Engineering in Region 3, and forest engineer for the Siuslaw National Forest in Region 6. He also worked in the Budget staff unit in WO Engineering and with the Gallatin National Forest.

Awards



R-1 Communications Award Winners

by Rob Stanton, RO student employee

The 1998 Region 1 awards for excellence in communications with the public were presented recently based on demonstration of extraordinary commitment and ability to involve local groups and individuals in Forest Service activities; to collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and communities; and to promote the Forest Service mission and the Natural Resource Agenda.

The 1997-1998 individual award went to **Edward Lieser**, silviculturist with the Tally Lake Ranger District, Flathead National Forest. Ed has demonstrated his leadership in communications in a variety of arenas, ranging from public field trips to his work as the Flathead forest liaison with the research station on the Miller Creek Demonstration Forest.

The 1997-1998 group award goes to the **Tally Lake Ranger District**, headquartered in Whitefish, Montana, for their outstanding efforts in working with the public to control tansy ragwort.

Special recognition go to the other nominees, Palouse District Ranger Carmine Lockwood and staff, Palouse Ranger District, Clearwater National Forest; Allen Rowley, Flathead National Forest; and Evie Bradley and Linda King, Bitterroot National Forest.



Jane Weber and Dick Paterson

Congratulations to Jane Weber!

by Keith Thurlkill, Regional Interpretive Specialist

Jane Weber, director of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, Lewis and Clark National Forest, was selected to receive the seventh annual Gifford Pinchot Excellence in Interpretation Award. This national award was presented at a special interagency ceremony during the National Association for Interpretation annual workshop in Anchorage, Alaska, on October 22, 1998. Dick Paterson, acting director for the WO Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness Resources program, presented the award as the culmination of a competition involving eight Forest Service regions.

Jane was recognized for her leadership and creativity during the design, construction and first season of operation of the new interpretive center dedicated in July 1998. The center commemorates the two-year journey of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery from St. Louis, Missouri, to the Pacific Ocean and back.

Jane has been the guiding spirit for this \$6 million interpretive center through every step of its evolution. She advocated universal design standards and forged strong partnerships with other agencies, Indian tribes and community members and organizations. She sought the help of scholars, videographers, and Native American cultural experts. Because of her personal efforts, the exhibits reflect the perspective of members of the Corps of Discovery and of the American Indian nations they encountered. The public will benefit greatly from this project for many years to come—thanks in large part to Jane Weber.

More AWARDS continued on next page

Rexford Ranger District Receives National Award

by Jeanne Spooner, public affairs specialist
Kootenai National Forest

The Rexford Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest, has demonstrated outstanding leadership in working with the public to maintain and restore ecosystem functions and processes through the use of prescribed fire. This past October, those efforts earned the district the National Advancing Ecosystems—Excellence in Prescribed Fire Group Award. In addition to district recognition, individual awards went to Ron Hvizdak, Neil Nelson, Sheila Braun and George Curtis for their leadership in the district's fire program.

One of the components of the district's program included burning 3,000 to 4,000 acres per year in three primary categories: ecosystem restoration burns on ponderosa

pine/Douglas fir sites; urban interface burns designed to reduce risks to human life and private property; and hazardous fuel reduction burns.

District staff consulted with the Confederated and Kootenai Tribes, the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Texas A&M University and the Intermountain Research Station to devise a management approach in the use of fire in the ponderosa pine ecosystem within the Middle Kootenai River Archaeological District (MKRAD). Within MKRAD, there are thousands of prehistoric sites and places of cultural significance to the Kootenai Tribe. A strategy was designed to determine the effects of prescribed fire on cultural resources that will provide guidance in future similar situations.

The dedication of the district's prescribed fire workforce has paid off in innumerable ways, but their rapport with local residents and larger private landowners has produced long-term benefits for both the district and residents. There are many ways the district



(left to right) George Curtis, Ron Hvizdak (holding plaque), Neil Nelson, Sheila Braun.

has reached out to people. A training video was produced, which has been effective in meetings and training courses. Employees also worked with the local newspaper to produce a series of articles on ecosystem management. Student field trips, public presentations on the role of fire in the ecosystem before and after site visits to treatment areas, and working with residents in urban interface locations to reduce fuels are other activities that contributed to a successful education program on the issue.

Superior Ranger District Receives R-1 Windows on the Past Award

by Jennifer Eberlien, staff archaeologist
Lolo National Forest

On July 24, 1998, regional archaeologist Mike Beckes presented the Region 1 *Windows on the Past* award to Superior District Ranger Cindy Chapman-Enstrom, Lolo National Forest. The award was given during the third annual Passport In Time (PIT) program at Savenac and at the Ninth Annual "Old Timer's" Reunion, where former employees of Savenac gather to exchange stories and memories and participate in a potluck picnic.

In his presentation, Mike stated, "This award honors the Superior District's and volunteers' dedication and continued support to the preservation and development of the historic Savenac Tree Nursery. Their hard work ensures Savenac has a bright future."

As noted by Chapman-Enstrom in accepting the award, Savenac Tree Nursery has historical importance to the local community and to the Forest Service. It was established in 1907 to provide tree seedling stock for the growing National Forest System. For three years, the Superior Ranger District has

right: Mike Beckes presenting *Windows on the Past* award to Cindy Chapman-Enstrom.



hosted a PIT project at the site in addition to obligating scarce dollars and labor in these budget-tightening times to preserve and develop Savenac. As a result of the district's efforts, Savenac has been transformed into a successful cabin rental site and is the location for the Superior School's annual environmental education camp.

The 1998 PIT program was an outstanding success. Thirty-one volunteers from across the country met at Savenac for a week of fun and work. Many volunteers were seasoned veterans of past Savenac projects; however, several were new to the PIT experience. Two women, Pat and Tina, who had never been outside the New York metropolitan area, traveled from Bronx, New York, on the bus for three days to be a part of the

Savenac PIT experience! After she returned home, Tina wrote an article for her agency's newsletter, in which she stated, "I left [Savenac] with a sense of fulfillment with the work I had completed and memories I will cherish forever." Pat and Tina's presence is a true reflection of the interest and dedication to the PIT program across the country.

The Superior Ranger District has planned a fourth PIT project for July 19-23, 1999. This PIT project will also coincide with the Tenth Annual "Old Timer's" Day reunion and picnic. It will be a week of great celebration, so mark it on your calendars and make sure you come for a visit!

Kudos Go to Idaho Law Enforcement Agencies and Officers

by MaryAlice Stoner, rural community assistance coordinator, Nez Perce National Forest

Seven Idaho law enforcement agencies and departments received a national Rural Community Assistance (RCA) leadership award presented December 2, 1998. Recognition went to the Clearwater/Nez Perce Zone Law Enforcement and Nez Perce National Forest, Idaho County Sheriff's Department, Idaho Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Investigative Bureau, Idaho Fish and Game Law Enforcement, Idaho State Police Division II Patrol Officers, Grangeville Police Department, and the Cottonwood Police Department. Also recognized were 24 individuals, including a Deputy U.S. Attorney and Idaho County Attorney. The recipients developed and implemented a coordinated working relationship in Idaho County from 1992 to 1997 which has reaped benefits at many levels.

The Forest Service's National RCA awards were created to recognize the outstanding community partnerships and collaborative efforts that are making a difference in rural America. Breaking with past tradition, this year's award spotlighted the importance of developing partnerships to create a safer community in which a local economy can flourish. Previously, many of the nominations were for community planning, events, or infrastructure such as community centers, medical facilities, or main street projects.

With the law enforcement partnership, departments and agencies have improved their communications, interactions, and knowledge of each others' missions. Objectives and personal relationships have been strengthened, which has improved officer effectiveness and response to all situations occurring both on and off national forest lands. Because of the partnership, the recipients are being viewed as a national model, particularly in the arena of environ-



left to right: Undersheriff Jon Stroop, Detective Vince Frazier, Deputy J. D. Doyle, LEO Steve Didier, Corporal Ron Hollis, Supervisory LEO Mike Merkley (Retired), LEO Chuck Wilson, Staff Officer Ihor Mereszczak, LEO Pete Deane, LEO John Preston, Investigative Assistant Lori DeFord, Deputy Terry Beeler (Retired), Staff Officer Dave Poncin (Retired), Supervisory LEO Bill Fox, LEO Jill Barnett, Captain Dan Bunderson, LEO Mike Myers, Officer Roy Kinner, Deputy U.S. Attorney Barry McHugh, and Acting Forest Supervisor Phil Jahn. Not pictured: Sheriff Gene Meinen, Lieutenant Skott Meeler, Sergeant Doug Ulmer, County Prosecutor Jeff Payne, Special Agent-In-Charge Dave Kane, Officer Tony Kavalok, Grangeville Chief of Police Wayne Sedam, Cottonwood Chief of Police Vance Schmaus, Regional Special Agent Tom King, and Staff Officer Elayne Murphy.

mental activism to safeguard the rights and interests of all parties.

"Seamless" operations allow officers and their operational strategists to pick and choose the jurisdiction that is the most advantageous for a needed response. For example, when a private individual shot at campers at a BLM recreation site, the nearest law enforcement resources responded in a coordinated effort, which included a Forest Service law enforcement officer, the Idaho County undersheriff, and two deputies. A six-hour standoff was successfully concluded without harm to the officers or the suspect.

Deputy Regional Forester Ron Larsen commented on the award by saying, "We recognize the value of the contribution of law enforcement in Idaho County. The county-wide community is reaping the benefits as it continues to develop a stable economy, maintain a desirable life style, and provide a place where it is safe to live, work and play. For this, we thank those involved in this partnership effort and we honor them by celebrating their achievements and their successes. This is a significant model to move Idaho County and the Nation forward into the community of the 21st century."

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

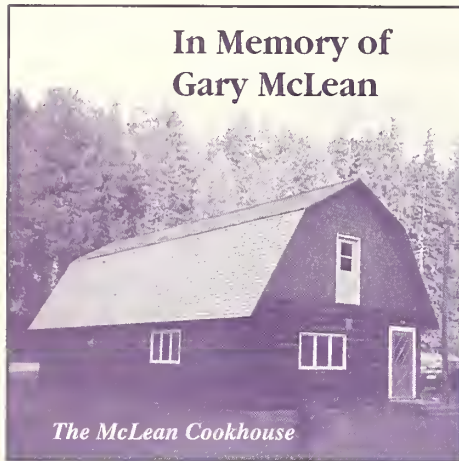
Kiele Recognized for Outstanding Efforts

by Laura Smith, public affairs assistant
Nez Perce National Forest

Terry Kiele, purchasing agent on the Nez Perce National Forest, was recently recognized by the Washington Office for her work with the new Purchase Card Management System (PCMS). Agency program coordinator Laurie Lewandowski sent Terry a spot award, a Certificate of Merit and a personal note thanking her for her efforts.

The PCMS is the automated credit card and check writing system now on the IBM that recently was implemented to replace the previous credit cards and third party drafts. When the new system was introduced, Terry put together a small booklet of helpful instructions for cardholders. It contains information to enable a new user to use the system - everything from log-on instructions to miscellaneous tips and suggestions to PCMS users. The booklet is being distributed to all Forest Service PCMS users.

Her co-workers on the Nez Perce have long appreciated what a valuable asset they have in Terry; they are happy to note that her efforts are recognized nationally.



by Allen Rowley, public affairs specialist
Flathead National Forest

A dedication ceremony was held August 29, 1998, to name the historic community cookhouse at the Spotted Bear Ranger Station as the "McLean Cookhouse" in memory of Gary McLean. Gary, former archaeologist on the Flathead National Forest, died in a vehicle accident the summer of 1997 at Spotted Bear. He was well respected at Spotted Bear for his work in support of cultural resources, whether it was conducting routine inventory work or helping to design offices and housing at Spotted Bear to blend with neighboring historic buildings.

The renaming of the cookhouse was for several reasons. Gary had a special love for Spotted Bear and for historic buildings. The cookhouse was built around 1915 as part of the Coram Ranger Station complex at Hungry Horse. In the 1970's it was dismantled, shipped to Spotted Bear, and reassembled. In the 1990's it was remodeled into a cookhouse and used for a variety of district events and activities. Also in Gary's honor was the placement of his name in the Spotted Bear Backcountry Hall of Fame, dedicated to those who have given more to the backcountry than they received.

Friends, family, and co-workers gathered for the dedication ceremony which included presentations and remembrances from Ross McAlpin, retired Flathead employee; Gene Brash, retired Flathead employee; Tony Incashola, cultural chairmen of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; and Al Christophersen, acting Flathead forest supervisor. Memorial songs and drumming were provided by the North Crow Creek Singers.

Roscoe S. Angle, 90, of Sula, Montana, died on December 31, 1998. Born in Kellogg, Idaho, in 1928, he entered the Eighth Air Force, 22nd Photo Reconnaissance Squad, in 1943, and received medals for his actions during the Normandy invasion.

Roscoe was employed by the Forest Service in the aerial photography department at Fort Missoula until his retirement in 1965. At the annual Honors Awards in Washington, D.C. in 1965, he received awards in science, engineering and technology for courage, steadfast leadership and accomplishments in aerial photography during the western Montana flood emergency of 1965. He also received awards for exceptional competency in the field of technical photography reproduction. After retirement he divided his time between Sula, Montana and San Diego, California. Survivors include his daughters Patricia Blahnik and Valerie Nooney.

Charles D. "Chuck" Beardsley, 84, died December 8, 1998, at his home on the Rapid River near Riggins, Idaho. Chuck retired from the Forest Service in 1979 as trails foreman on the Salmon River District, Nez Perce National Forest. Raised near Garden Grove, California, Chuck began a long career in trail work that started with the National Park Service, constructing log bridges in Yosemite National Park in 1938. He moved to Idaho's Salmon River country after World War II, doing ranch and sawmill work, and started working for the Salmon River District at Riggins in 1961 on the trail crew. He remained with that district for entire Forest Service career, building and maintaining trails and bridges for pack stock in the Seven Devils mountains, in Hells Canyon, in the Gospels, on Rapid River, and along the main Salmon River. An accomplished blaster, Chuck was skilled at trail building with native rock, and he leaves behind him a legacy of trail rock work and bridges.

Gerry Bergerson, 73, died in Kalispell, Montana, on September 22, 1998. Gerry began her Federal Service with the Soil Conservation Service in Miles City, Montana in 1963. She later transferred to the Bozeman Office. In 1976, she transferred to the Forest Service and the Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest. Gerry served as the business management assistant at the district for 12 1/2

years until her retirement in December 1988. After retirement she volunteered on the forest for a wide variety of jobs—from a cook for crews on the Hungry Horse Archeological Project Investigation to clerical support and cataloging artifacts. Gerry, nicknamed "Grandma Spotted Bear" by her co-workers, was given the honor of being placed in the Spotted Bear Backcountry Hall of Fame. The hall of fame is dedicated to those who have given more to the backcountry than they received.

Willard Clementson, 79, of Clarkston, Idaho, died February 1, of an aneurysm. He was born in Fosston, Minnesota. During World War II, Willard enlisted in the Army Medical Administrative Corps and was assigned to the 65th Infantry Division in 1943. He served as a unit medical commander and assistant medical office in the European Theater. He received a Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, and a combat medical badge. After the war Willard worked in the sand and gravel contracting business. Upon receiving his civil engineering degree in 1960, he worked for the Helena National Forest and the Nez Perce National Forest (1967-1975) as a forest engineer. He also spent time in the WO as a chief transportation operations and maintenance engineer. He retired from the agency in 1982 and moved to Clarkston.

He is survived by his wife Edna and daughter Sarah Schrader.

Helen Moore, 85, died December 27, 1998, in Choteau, Montana. Born and raised near Fairfield, Montana, Helen moved to Choteau in 1926 and graduated from Teton County High School. She spent 15 with the Forest Service in Choteau. She is survived by two sons, Dick and Jack Moore, and a daughter, JoAnn Williams.

Eugene L. Noreen, passed away on September 26, 1998, in Tacoma, Washington. A former Forest Service employee, Noreen worked as an accountant on the Lolo National Forest from 1962 until transferring to Region 2 in 1967.

George F. Roskie, 87, died November 24, 1998, at his home in Great Falls of natural causes. Born in Brookings, South Dakota, Roskie graduated from the University of Montana in 1936 with a bachelor's degree in forest management. During his 35 years with the Forest Service Roskie served

Personnel Actions

in several capacities. He was forest supervisor of the Lewis and Clark National Forest from 1960-1967 and assistant regional forester for resource management in the Alaska Region. He retired in 1971. Roskie served in the Montana State Senate from 1975 to 1980. He chaired the senate natural resources committee and was the chairman of the Surface Mine Reclamation Task Force. Surviving are his daughter, Lynn Baker and son Richard Roskie.

Richard Schmitz, 64, died October 20, 1998, at his home in Ogden. He was born in Milwaukee and received his Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Idaho. He worked for the Forest Service for 40 years prior to his retirement in 1992.

Early in his career he worked for the Ninemile Ranger District as a seasonal and later for the Forest Insect Laboratory in Missoula.

He is survived by his wife Joyce and his two daughters Christine Schmitz and Karen Mendys; and step-daughters Jessica Wallace and Kathryn Manning.

Carl Weholt, 98, a retired smokechaser, died February 4 of causes related to age. He was born in Big Canyon, Idaho, and was raised in Harpster. He began working for the Forest Service when he was 18 in the old Selway National Forest. He was the lead smokechaser in 1919 for the Selway's Lochasa District during a heavy fire season for the forest. During the Depression, Weholt worked as an educational adviser for the Civilian Conservation Corps. Later jobs included FBI investigator, teacher, and builder-contractor. He continued to work for the Forest Service intermittently. In 1958 he was employed as construction and maintenance supervisor for the Nez Perce National Forest. He retired in 1965 and moved back with his wife to Harpster. They recently moved to Grangeville for health reasons. Weholt documented his experiences in two books: *Smokechaser* and *A Kid on the Frontier*.

Survivors include his wife Ruth, daughter Maxine Leavitt, and four sons: Carl, Jr., Richard, Raymond, and Lonnie.

William "Bill" Werner, 71, died on November 7, 1998, at his home in Stevensville. He was born October 22, 1927, in Dilley, Oregon. He was in the Merchant Marines during World War II and served several years overseas. Bill worked for the Forest Service in Missoula for many years. Survivors include his wife Barbara, daughter Lavonne and son Dennis.

BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BEAN-DOCHNAHL, JANET, planner, SO, QSI
BLINN, MICHAEL, contract specialist, Lolo NF, promotion, contract speclst, SO
CASEY, EDMOND, planner, SO, perf. award
CONRAD, BENJAMIN, wildlife biologist, Philipsburg RD, perf. award
DESPAIN, DON, rangeland management specialist, Deer Lodge RD, perf. award
GIACOLETTI, MARK, supervisory forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, QSI
GOEPFERD, HAROLD, computer specialist, promotion, supervisory computer specialist, SO Annex
HAMMOND, ERROL, forester, Deer Lodge RD, perf. award
JOHNSON, GEORGE, forestry technician, Dillon RD, QSI
LUNCEFORD, CECILIA, support services supervisor, Deer Lodge RD, perf award
MCLAUGHLIN, DOREEN, budget and accounting analyst, SO, QSI
MOUSEL, MARTHA, planner, SO, promotion, GIS coordinator, Caribou/Targhee NF, SO
OURADA, CHRIS, AFMO, Sheridan Work Center, promotion, FMO, Clearwater NF
PETRONI, DIANE, planner, SO, perf. award
SAWYER, SHARON, procurement tech, promotion, purchasing agent, SO
SHAW, GARLAND, supervisory rangeland management specialist, Philipsburg RD, Perf. award
SCHAEFFER, JAMES, forester, Dillon RD, QSI
SMITH, KEVIN, supervisory forestry technician, Jefferson RD, perf. award
SPRAUER, WILLIAM, forester, Philipsburg RD, perf. award
SUENRAM, PERI, appeals speclst, promotion, interdisciplinary, SO

Reassignments & Transfers

BLACKBURN, ROBIN, business mgmt asst, Sheridan Work Center, reassignment, Lolo NF, office auto asst
FALLIS, DAVID, forester admin, Challis NF, reassignment, district ranger, Dillon RD

Retirements & Resignations

BOWEY, CHARLES, wildlife biologist, Dillon RD, resignation
WILLIAMS-RASH, CATHY, rangeland management specialist, Sheridan Work Center, resignation

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BAUGHMAN, GEORGE, civil engineer, SO, performance award
DOBROCKE, KAYE, support services supervisor, Hungry Horse RD, performance award
LANE, MARV, purchasing agent, Swan Lake RD, performance award
MCKINLEY, DIANNA, law enforcement officer, Swan Lake RD, promotion
MORGAN, DEVI, budget and accounting officer, SO, temporary promotion
PACKER, JANE, computer assistant, Hungry Horse RD, performance award

SENNER, VIENNA, business management assistant, Hungry Horse RD, performance award

Reassignments & Transfers

KOENEKER, MARK, computer specialist, SO, reassignment

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BUTTRAM, ANNA, forestry tech, Hebgen Lake RD, perf. award
CIFALA, FRANK, forester, Big Timber RD, perf. award
COFFIN, CLAUDE, supervisory forester, Hebgen Lake RD, perf. award
DETTORI, MICHAEL, rangeland management specialist, Livingston RD, QSI
FOUSE, FRED, wildlife biologist, Livingston RD, QSI
GOUTERMONT, NORITA, resource clerk, Gardiner RD, promotion
GOUTERMONT, NORITA, resource clerk, Gardiner RD, perf. award
LENNON, MARY, mining engineer, Livingston RD, QSI
MARCERON, TERESA, district ranger, Livingston RD, QSI
ORR, SALLY, rangeland management specialist, Big Timber RD, perf award
RATH, DICK, forestry technician, Livingston RD, perf. award
STANGL, JANINE, wildlife biologist, Hebgen Lake RD, QSI

Reassignments & Transfers

DORVALL, RENE, computer assistant, B-D SO, reassignment, SSS, Gallatin NF, Big Timber RD

New Employees

STATON, CAROL, office automation clerk, Gardiner RD

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

LINDGREN, JAY, forestry technician, Lincoln RD, promotion
MEYER, JERRY, technical writer-editor, SO, promotion
TEEGARDEN, AMY, community outreach assistance coordinator, SO, promotion

Reassignments & Transfers

HACKMAN, BRETT, personnel clerk, Flathead NF to SO, reassignment
HARP, DUANE, district ranger, Helena RD from Tongass NF, reassignment
NEUKAM, TAMARA, personnel assistant, INS Alaska to SO, reassignment
PITTMAN, MAGGIE, public affairs officer/AO, SO, reassignment
WALKER, KATE, fishery biologist, Payette NF to Helena SO, reassignment

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BALBONI, MIKE, district ranger, Three Rivers RD, to acting forest supervisor, SO, temporary promotion

Personnel Actions continued on page 16.

BOJONELL, HILAIRE, hydrologist, SO, promotion
 CAIN, LYNN, forestry technician, Rexford RD, to computer specialist, SO, promotion
 CARLSON, JOHN, fisheries biologist, Cabinet RD, to SO, promotion
 DUEKER, ANNE, wildlife biologist, Rexford RD, to biological scientist, temporary promotion
 DUNHAM, JOLEEN, forester, Fortine RD, performance award
 HIGGINS, JEANNE, supervisory forester, Three Rivers RD, to acting district ranger, temporary promotion
 JOHNSON, KENT, computer assistant, SO, promotion
 KARSIAN, ANNE, botanist, Cabinet RD, to NEPA planner, R3, Santa Fe NF, promotion
 MARTEN, LEANNE, forester, SO, to public affairs officer, temporary promotion
 PRICE, PATRICK, fisheries biologist, Rexford RD, performance award
 SCHITTON, MARLENA, accounting technician, SO, promotion
 SHIRA, MIKE, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, to forester, temporary promotion
 FANSLER, MARY, accounting technician, SO, to financial assistant, promotion
 VESSAR, MARC, hydrological technician, Rexford RD, performance award
 WATTS, MIKE, supervisory computer specialist, SO, performance award

Reassignments & Transfers

BARRETT, MARTHA, financial assistant, SO, to budget and accounting analyst, RO, promotion

BOHN, BRYCE, hydrologist, Fortine RD to R2 Black Hills NF, promotion
 DONALD, MICHAEL, fisheries biologist, R6, Olympic NF, to biological scientist, Three Rivers RD
 GREEN, ROGER, land surveyor, R5 Wallow-Whitman NF, to SO
 REBO, SANDRA, computer specialist, Three Rivers RD, to WO, promotion
 STEARNS, RICH, geologist, SO, to R6 Wenatchee NF
 SWAN, JENNIFER, civil engineer, R9 Monogahela NF, to supervisory civil engineer, East Zone
 WATTS, MIKE, supervisory computer specialist, SO, to computer specialist, WO, promotion

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BUCHER, SUE, interpretive services specialist, Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, promotion
 DIEMERT, VELIA, cartography technician, (GIS), SO, promotion
 METRIONE, JOHN, forestry technician, SO, promotion
 TEUBER, KURT, resource information specialist (GIS) Remote Sensing Lab, Sacramento, CA, promotion

Reassignments & Transfers

HERGETT, HARVEY, supervisory civil engineer, SO, reassignment
 SCHEER, JENNY, forester, SO, reassignment
 ZADRA, MARIANNE, information assistant, SO, reassignment

Retirements

BROWN, LEAH, information assistant, SO, retirement
 DOMBROVSKI, JERRY, district ranger, Rocky Mountain RD, retirement

REGIONAL OFFICE

Awards & Promotions

ANTONICH, PAT, forestry technician, RMLH&W, promotion
 BLOCKER, BETTY, program assistant, S&PF support, promotion
 BOURASSA, MARTHAN, supervisory accountant, FR, QSI
 DEARING, PATRICIA, supervisory contract specialist, P&P, QSI
 ENGSTROM SOLHEIM, KATHY, program assistant, S&PF support, promotion
 HASTIE, LINDA, program assistant, S&PF support, promotion
 HAYDEN, WINSTON, mechanic engineering technician, MTDC, QSI
 MAIER, NEAL, supervisory mechanic engineering technician, MTDC, QSI
 PLYMALE, PAULA, accountant, FR, QSI

Reassignments & Transfers

ZWANG, CHERYLE, transferred, BLM
 GORE, ROXIE, claims assistant, FR, transferred, U.S. Postal Service

New Employees

CASE, PAMELA, supervisory computer specialist, IS

Resignations

CLAGUE, JANET, management assistant, IS

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